



#15 2815
Amended
ASmall's-Logan
2/25/03
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Applicant: Lap Wai Chow, et al.)	Examiner: Nguyen, Joseph H.
)	
Appl. No : 09/768,904)	Art Unit: 2815
)	
Filed: January 24, 2001)	Our Ref: B-3964 618029-8
)	
For: "INTEGRATED CIRCUITS)	Date: February 6, 2003
PROTECTED AGAINST REVERSE)	
ENGINEERING AND METHOD FOR)	Re: Response
FABRICATING THE SAME USING AN)	
APPARENT METAL CONTACT LINE)	
TERMINATING ON FIELD OXIDE")	

RESPONSE

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action issued November 7, 2002. Please amend the claims as indicated below. **All amendments and remarks herein are made without prejudice.**

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 without prejudice. Please cancel claims 21 and 22.

A clean version of all pending claims, as amended, is presented on the following pages. A marked version of amended claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 is attached as Appendix A to this response. The REMARKS section of this response discusses the specific amendments made to the claims.